

## **RACC Meeting Minutes No. 150 (6/1/05)**

1. Purpose: A regularly scheduled meeting of the RACC was held from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST in Room 3246 on Wednesday, June 1, 2005, to discuss and address national and regional AWIPS issues, problems and concerns.
2. Regions In Attendance: The following regions (and other NWS organizations) participated in the conference call: **ERH**: Neal DiPasquale; **SRH**: Eric Howieson; **WRH**: Sean Wink; **CRH**: Bill Gery, Greg Noonan; **ARH**: Phil Mieczynski; **NGIT**: Bruno Vercillo; **FSL**: Rich Jesuroga; **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Timm Decker;
3. Discussion Items: The following topics were discussed/briefed at the meeting:
  - a. Status of OB5 and Other Software Issues: There are 53 sites at OB4.1a and 82 sites at OB4.2. Concerning OB4.1b, in house testing is complete and beta testing is underway. The maintenance release takes about 15 minutes to install and could be ready for regular deployment next week. We are putting together a maintenance release OB4.2a and expect to beta test it in a few weeks. OB4.2a contains fixes that came out after early sites installed OB4.2.  
  
Concerning the OB5 beta testing status, site GGW is installing beta version 17 today in preparation for the final System Verification Review this coming Friday. Full deployment is set to begin on June 22. We will issue an e-mail shortly to all focal points on how to begin scheduling sites for the full deployment.  
  
Concerning the OB6 phase 1 (aka Red Hat Enterprise OS install), the WSH system NMTR is installing it today with Central Region Headquarters scheduled to install it on Wednesday, June 8.
  - b. Update on Instructions for Coastal Sites Ingest of the Puerto Rico Satellite Sectors: The Eastern region has tested these instructions at two of their sites (RLX and CHS) and Josh Watson is ready to finalize them. Josh will send them to Wayne Martin of the SST who will in turn distribute them to all appropriate regional personnel. The Eastern region has offered to assist the other regions if a site runs into problems following the instructions.
  - c. Focal Point/Participants Reports, Problems and Concerns:

Alaska Region: Site AJK is a Guardian software test site. Tom Filiaggi from FSL will be coming there this Friday and will install the Guardian software this coming Saturday. If all goes well at other test sites in the other regions, then the Guardian software will be placed into the OB7 baseline software. Phil has been assisting site ACR with installing OB4.2. As a result, all of our sites are at OB4.2 with the exception of AFC which is at OB5.0. We will try to schedule the installation of the final delta of 5.0 at AFC as soon as possible. One of the ESA=s is out on extended sick leave at Anchorage and Phil will be assisting the Anchorage WFO and RFC when he can.

Central Region: We have installed and tested OB4.1b at UNR and GID with site DSM installing it today. Things went well at UNR and GID. We went through the AS rack consolidation effort and the new firewall a few weeks ago here at BCQ. We are looking to do the Linux OS upgrade next week and are awaiting the finalized instructions. We have already received the CDs for this project and the hardware for relocating the PowerVault.

We understand that WSH needs several hydro VTEC OT&E sites to be OB6 beta sites. We can help but Sanford mentioned that these test sites need to have OB5 so if a region offers up a few of these sites for testing, then please schedule them for the OB5 installs as soon as possible after national deployment on June 22. The other focal points asked for a listing of these hydro VTEC OT&E sites and Sanford stated that he will send the list to all the regional focal points so they can schedule possible test sites for their OB5 installs.

Eastern Region: We discovered a bug in WarnGen at a couple of sites and this bug impacts both OB4.1 and OB4.2. The issue is that a warning polygon covering a small portion of a county warning area will result in the user NOT being able to issue a followup product. A temporary fix is to use a larger portion of the county warning area and a permanent fix is forthcoming in OB5.1. **(Editor's Note: Much discussion has been held since on whether a feasible fix can be implemented in a Maintenance Release (e.g. OB5.1)).**

Neal stated there is some confusion between OB4.1b, OB4.2, OB4.2a, and OB5. Sanford responded that OB4.1b is for those sites that are not scheduled for OB4.2 soon but need the fixes quickly. OB4.2a contains several critical WarnGen fixes for those sites that installed OB4.2 early and cannot wait for OB5 (which will contain all fixes from 4.1b and 4.2 a). A question was asked when will OB4.2a be issued and the response is it will be ready for beta testing in the next few weeks.

Southern Region: nothing significant to report.

Western Region: When are we to begin the rack consolidation project? Mary Buckingham responded that it should begin in July. There is little NCF support required but the NCF likes to know when the AS server might be taken down (usually for less than 2 hours). So we are asking that the regional focal points to please schedule each of your sites using the Oracle calendar. There is no maximum number of sites per day. An updated mod note will be issued either later this week or early next week.

At the May 8 RACC, Wayne Martin discussed that unbeknownst to the local ESA/ITO, some AWIPS systems may have had their radar One-Time-Request communications reverted from a WAN protocol to a dial protocol. It was mentioned that it would be helpful to have a listing of the AWIPS systems which are using the old dial protocol. The Western region asked if this listing was available. Wayne Martin of the SST informed the RACC that he sent out a spreadsheet today that shows for each AWIPS system the number of radars which are configured for dial One-Time-Request communications and the number of radars which are configured for WAN One-Time-Request communications. The spreadsheet can be used to verify that for each AWIPS system all of the radar One-Time-Request communications has been converted to a WAN protocol. Ideally, all of the radars should be converted to a WAN One-Time-Request

communications. Wayne has also included background information so that each ESA/ITO will know what needs to be done to correctly configure their AWIPS system for WAN One-Time-Request communications.

FSL: nothing significant to report.

NWSTC: We have been getting ready for a class this week and have some comments for the System Managers Manual (SMM). Who do we report our comments to? The person to send comments concerning the SMM is [ronald.smith@noaa.gov](mailto:ronald.smith@noaa.gov).

Warning Decision Training Branch: We have a verification review here this coming Friday and will beta version 17 be the final one for OB5? The answer is in the affirmative. We would like to have it since testing on the WES will begin no later than a week after national deployment of OB5.

NGIT: nothing significant to report.

**The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, June 15, 2005. If you know of any agenda items you wish to be discussed at this RACC, please e-mail them to Jim Stenpeck and cc Wayne Martin. This is to ensure that all of the appropriate WSH personnel attend this RACC to address your issues.**